



Jasper Community Arts
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**MEDIA RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: July 22, 2014**

CONTACT PERSON: KIT MIRACLE, DIRECTOR

**SUBJECT: JASPER ARTS PRESENTS THE PRESIDENT'S OWN UNITED STATES
MARINE BAND IN CONCERT**

Jasper Community Arts is proud to present The President's Own United States Marine Band in concert on Saturday, September 6th, at 7:30 pm. The concert will be held at the Jasper High School gymnasium but all ticketing inquiries must be directed to Jasper Community Arts. This free concert is presented with support from the City of Jasper, the Greater Jasper Community Schools, and German American Bank.

Established in 1798 by an Act of Congress signed by President John Adams, the United States Marine Band is America's oldest continuously active professional musical organization. The band made its White House debut on New Year's Day, 1801, and has performed at the inauguration of every President since Thomas Jefferson, who is credited with giving the band the title, "The President's Own."

From the earliest days of our nation, the Marine Band's primary mission has been to provide music for the President of the United States and the Commandant of the Marine Corps. Performing for State arrival ceremonies, dinners, receptions, and accompanying famous entertainers, Marine Band musicians appear at the White House more than 300 times each year. Additionally, the Marine Band participates in more than 500 public and official performances annually, including concerts and ceremonies throughout the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area and across the country during the fall concert tour.

In 1891, the band's legendary 17th Director, John Philip Sousa, led the Marine Band on its first concert tour. As a result, for more than one hundred years, the Marine Band has toured throughout the country performing in communities both large and small. Marine Band concerts offer a unique blend of traditional concert band and contemporary wind ensemble music suitable for people of all ages and musical tastes.

Of special note: One of the members touring with this concert is Gunnery Sergeant, Brad Weil. A 1998 graduate of JHS and 2003 graduate of IU with a degree in music performance, he has been a member of the band since 2004. He plays the trumpet/cornet.

The Director of the United States Marine Band is Lieutenant Colonel, Jason K. Fettig. He is the 28th director in the history of the band and has held that position since 2004. He joined the band in 1997. LtCol Fettig holds two Bachelor's degrees from University of Massachusetts at Amherst, one in clarinet performance and another in music education with an emphasis in conducting. He also holds a Masters Degree from the University of Maryland in orchestral conducting. He has studied with several famous conductors and is deeply committed to music education.

Although the concert is free, everyone will need a ticket. Patrons may request up to four free tickets by calling Jasper Community Arts at 812-482-3070. Seating at the concert on Saturday, September 6th, will begin at 6:45 pm. Ticketed patrons must be in their seats by 7:15 pm or they will forfeit their tickets. Additional tickets may be at the door, depending upon availability. No book bags or backpacks will be allowed in the gym. Over-sized purses and diaper bags may be searched. Learn more about the United States Marine band at:

www.marineband.marines.mil/

Jasper Community Arts is a department of the City of Jasper. Additional support is provided by Friends of the Arts, Inc., the Indiana Arts Commission, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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